

Xavier University

Exhibit

All Xavier Student Newspapers

Xavier Student Newspapers

2020-10-08

Xavier University Newswire

Xavier University (Cincinnati, Ohio)

Follow this and additional works at: https://www.exhibit.xavier.edu/student_newspaper



Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#), and the [History Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Xavier University (Cincinnati, Ohio), "Xavier University Newswire" (2020). *All Xavier Student Newspapers*. 3130.

https://www.exhibit.xavier.edu/student_newspaper/3130

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Xavier Student Newspapers at Exhibit. It has been accepted for inclusion in All Xavier Student Newspapers by an authorized administrator of Exhibit. For more information, please contact exhibit@xavier.edu.



Black student leaders seize SLAB

Students of color address concerns with admin, commission proposed

BY ALEX BUDZYNSKI
Managing Editor

After administrators failed to organize a meeting with Black student leaders to discuss matters of race on campus, Black students collaborated with a member of the Student Leader Advisory Board (SLAB) to take over the SLAB meeting on Wednesday night. They were met with the guarantee of a new Civil Rights Commission.

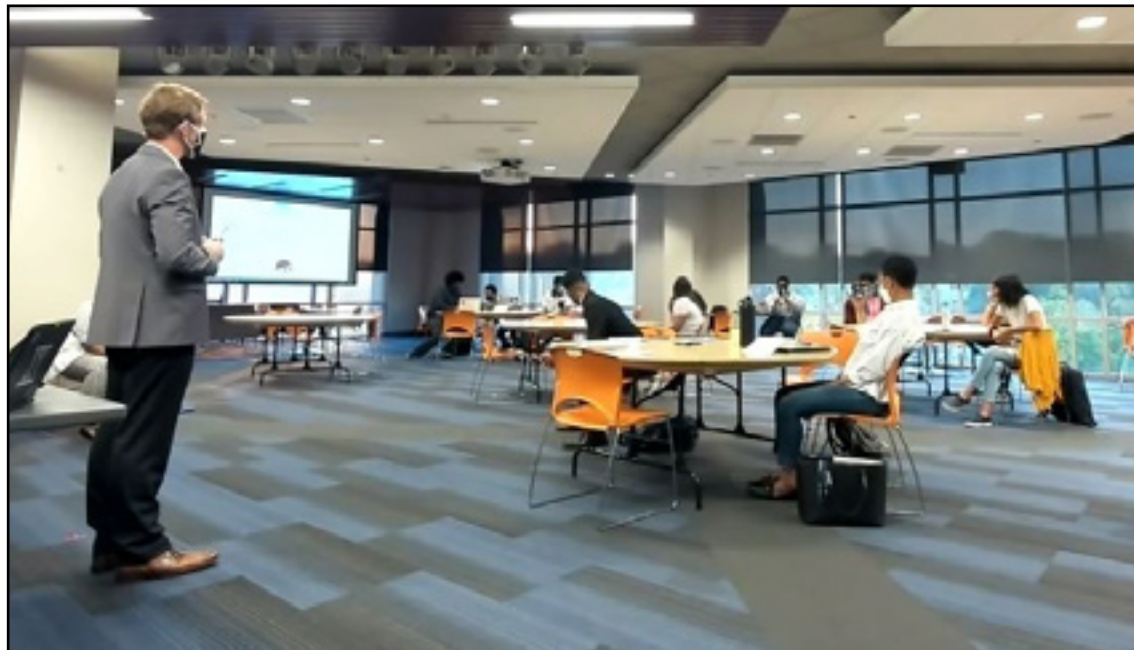
Led by Chief Student Affairs Officer Dr. Dave Johnson and Dean of Students Jean Griffin, SLAB is a monthly meeting that gathers student leaders from clubs across campus to discern and plan for Xavier's future. While SLAB does invite leaders from identity groups, the typical SLAB meeting is filled with more faces of White students than students of color.

At the Your School, Your Questions administrative panel last Thursday, it was communicated that diversity and inclusion initiatives and the Speak Up XU protest were on the agenda for Wednesday's SLAB meeting.

"We discussed it actually there at the forum last week and (a White SLAB member) was like it's a good idea for (senior Cameron Lakes and I) to take the seats over," organizer Sierra Stennis said. "So we decided to open the doors to other fellow Black leaders right on campus, and it got bigger than we thought."

"There are so many Black leaders here on this campus. They're just not necessarily recognized in these spaces," Stennis added.

Nearly every White student on SLAB ceded their in-person seat so that students of color could directly speak with administrators. White student leaders showed support for students of color by showing up to the meeting



Newswire photo courtesy of Heather Gast

Black student leaders joined other student leaders of color at Wednesday's Student Leadership Advisory Board meeting focusing on racial injustice at Xavier after White student leaders ceded their in-person seats.

over Zoom instead.

Early on Wednesday, Johnson heard of the planned take over and proceeded to open up SLAB meeting to accommodate any student who wished to attend.

The handful of White students who did attend SLAB in-person, as well as those who participated through Zoom, purposefully maintained a respectful distance from the conversation, ensuring that it was students of color whose voices guided the meeting.

Johnson admitted that while SLAB has representation from diverse student groups, it is not nearly representative enough.

"We were extremely grateful that that happened, because as a result... we had a really robust discussion, and it was richer because we had more people at it... I'm grateful student leaders took that initiative," Johnson commented.

Stennis was one of 12 Black students who attended the meeting, even though they was not originally invited.

A plethora of Black student

leaders who were involved in the take over could not attend the SLAB meeting due to prior commitments, including a Black Student Association meeting. But the dozen students involved in organizing who were able to attend felt the meeting was productive.

Organizer Adriana Smith was optimistic that she and the rest of her community were finally given an opportunity to have a say in the decisions and conversations happening at the university.

"It's not even about me, but... I've never been a part of any sort of conversation like (SLAB). This is the first time that's happened and it's giving me a little bit of hope," Smith said.

One of those new ways comes in the form of the new Civil Rights Commission.

As it was described at SLAB, the Civil Rights Commission will be a springboard for student leaders and activists to name and declare priorities and to develop action plans against those priorities.

Johnson devised the Civil

Rights Commission with Father Michael Graham, president, Dr. Kyra Shahid, Director of the Center for Diversity and Inclusion, and Dr. Janice Walker, Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer, after witnessing the passion of Black student leaders at both the Speak Up XU protest and the Your School, Your Questions panel. They were planning to unveil the commission before learning of the take over.

According to Johnson, the commission will be launched in three weeks, in which time the administration will iron out the details of the group.

"I expect us to immediately go forward, and there's a lot of details to work out... but there's clearly a will for it, so we're going to make it happen," Johnson said.

Many of the student organizers had mixed responses to the proposition of the Civil Rights Commission.

"I'm not going to say it's a bad idea because I think there's some potential there, but that itself is going to be the right answer," Lakes said.

"Even the structure of the meeting really shows how much it was performative... it doesn't make sense if they were going to be talking about (the Civil Rights Commission) without Black students there," he further elaborated.

While the organizers agreed that take over was a step in the right direction, they also explained that the SLAB meeting was frustrating to be a part of.

Organizer Andrew Michael explained that meetings like SLAB can have a lot of talk but little action. As a Student Government Association senator, Michael shared that even in spaces designed for collaboration between students and administrators, the resulting change can be stifled.

This is especially an issue when students attempt to address racial issues on campus.

"They keep asking us what are the immediate changes that you would like to see," Lakes, who was vocal at the Speak Up XU protest, the Your School, Your Questions panel and now the SLAB meeting shared. "We're repeating ourselves years on end and... we're tired because it is the same students and the same people saying the same things."

For many of the Black student leaders who participated in this take over, this is just one step in the process, but it's a substantial one.

"Being invited to meetings I should have been invited to a long time ago, is not a small step to me," Stennis said.

But even with this progress, the organizers remain vigilant.

"I know this is not the first time that a group of Black students and Black leaders have gotten together and tried to hold administration accountable," Stennis said. "It's a cycle and I don't want that cycle to continue."

In this issue...

Campus, Page 2

Ever wondered about the stray cats around campus? Read about their origin story.



World, Page 4

County prosecutorial candidates debate, discussed protests and bail reform.



A & E, Page 11

Students respond with apathy and agony over *Parks And Recs'* removal from Netflix.



The Back Page

If you're looking for a new man to crush on, we have several recommendations



The stray cats of Wayne Wilke

The Grass on an empty lot has a unique story to tell about the cats of XU



Newswire photo by Desmond Fischer

Judge Wilke's house used to occupy the empty lot that sits on the residential mall by Kulhman Hall and across the street from Brockman Hall. The only thing that still remains is the stray cats that roam around campus.

By CARTER DANIELS
Staff Writer

As you walk around the Xavier campus you might see stray cats following you or just doing their own thing.

The cats primarily hang out around the residential mall and the A.B. Cohen Center. You may wonder who these cats belong to and who takes care of the felines.

Wayne Wilke, who passed away on Apr. 30, 2017, was re-

sponsible for these cats. Along with the help of his assistants, Wilke cared for over 40 stray cats that can be found on the Xavier campus. Wilke had a long history in public service, most notably serving two terms as the Probate Judge of Hamilton County, Ohio.

Wilkes was also the founder and a member of Wilke and Goering, a bankruptcy law firm in Cincinnati.

He was also known by the Xavier community because of

his former house on Ledge-wood Avenue, located right across the street from Brockman Hall.

Wilke's former home sat nearly 100 yards south of the French Victorian house his father, Harry, bought when he moved to Cincinnati to become a Cincinnati Police Department detective after his days of playing catcher for the Detroit Tigers.

After selling the Victorian home on cash to a Dutch

couple in the 1970's, Wilke permanently moved into his second property on the street.

He expanded the humble structure to a 10-room home including double-brick walls to combat the noise from campus, dozens of cat houses and a movie theatre to watch his more than 18,000 films—192 of which feature his uncle, actor Robert J. Wilke.

In addition to being known as the cat caretaker, Wilke was friendly to Xavier students and staff, creating friendships with many of them.

Wilke would also be found attending Xavier basketball games with John Kucia, the administrative vice president and the principal assistant to Father Graham.

In a previous interview with *Newswire*, Wilke commented, "I have never had a problem with the kids at Xavier. Sure, they get loud sometimes, but all I have to do is go inside. And I enjoy talking to them — that's why I sit outside a lot."

Regarding the future of his property, Wilke commented, "I'd like to see it turned into its own residence hall. There are eight rooms in there that could be bedrooms."

Now, the field where the house stood is scheduled to be the space for a new residence hall.

Brady Eyer was Wilke's personal assistant who helped care for the cats and took care of him before his death.

"He's the most interesting man I've ever met. Most people don't realize that when they walk by. They only see the cats." Eyer remarked.

Wilke was not the only cat-lover in the Xavier community. Professor Liz Johnson, chair of the Department of Computer Science at Xavier has a big heart for cats.

In addition to her occupation at Xavier, Johnson has served as the volunteer executive director of Cincinnati nonprofit Ohio Alleycat Resource (OAR) since 2009.

In an interview with the blog "Good Things Going Around," Johnson commented, "one of the reasons I got hooked at OAR was that I helped to socialize a shy kitten who was not adoptable when I started. Each week, I would spend time with her after my cat care shift was finished, slowly winning her over through treats and petting. Eventually she learned that humans were ok and she was adopted."

So, if you see stray cats around the Xavier campus roaming near the residential mall or by the streets near Brockman Hall, don't worry, they have a history.

Photo-op: what should Fenwick Hall renamed?

By EMILIE KRACIK
Staff Writer

As Xavier looks to reckon with its racist past, students have been throwing around some ideas on what it should be renamed. Here's what these five students said.



"If I could rename Fenwick I would name it after Father B. He is a saint and such a positive influence to the Xavier community, it would be great having the building named after someone Xavier loves so much."

- **Liz Greenop**
Junior psychology and theology major



"I would rename Fenwick 'Kobe Bryant Hall.' It would be a great way to pay tribute to him. He did a lot of community building throughout his lifetime and was a great role model on and off the court."

- **Justin Montgomery**
Sophomore sports management major



"I think Fenwick should be named Antonio Johnson Hall. The CDI has an Antonio Johnson Gala each year. It would be redemptive to have Bishop Feniwick, a man who owned slaves, to be replaced by an excellent black Xavier student and would point Xavier in the correct direction in combating systemic racism."

- **Andrew Geraghty**
Junior Philosophy, Politics and the Public and economics major



"I think Fenwick should be named after a person of color. If the whole point of this is to try and right the wrongdoings of people in history, we must go farther than just 'erasing' the wrongs and actively take a stance against racism and wrongdoing by supporting and giving voices to people of color. That is what the Jesuit tradition is all about."

- **Tyler Gilkey**
Senior psychology major



"I would rename Fenwick 'Archbishop Oscar Romero Place' because he was a social justice giant who spoke out about the injustices carried out by the Salvadoran government despite the danger that taking his position came with. Romero completely embodies our Jesuit tradition."

- **Sam Mossing**
Junior theology and english double major

Beloved parking attendant retires

As his shack remains empty, Jack Smith steps away from his role at Xavier



Photo Via @XavierU on Twitter.

Jack Smith, who has been serving as the parking attendant, stepped away from the position on sept. 24 to focus on enjoying his retirement.

By GRACE HAMILTON
Staff Writer

After 16 years of service, Jack Smith is no longer the parking attendant at Xavier. His booth at the end of the University Drive lot, referred to as “Jack’s Shack,” now stands empty.

Smith’s career at Xavier began at Cintas Center, where he worked for two years before applying for a position as a parking attendant. His job included taking care of any parking problems, answering questions and helping parents

and students that were new to Campus.

One of Smith’s favorite things to do when new families came to Xavier was taking them to the statue of Our Lady, Queen of Victory and Peace, nestled in the grotto behind the booth. He would tell stories of past graduates of Xavier.

One story was that of Sally, a girl who wouldn’t take her midterms since her father was being deployed to Afghanistan and she wanted to spend time with him before he left.

According to Smith, the

university gave her midterms and sent her home to be with her father. Smith says of Xavier’s principles, “Family values come first, education second.”

To Smith, Xavier was family, as he fondly referred to students as his kids. Smith said he learned a lot from his time at Xavier, mostly from the students.

“You can tell a Xavier graduate by how they act and how they talk... They stand out,” he remarked.

He also hopes the students learned from him.

“I hope my kids follow what I told them to do: study, get an education and help another Muskie.”

Smith’s job positioned at his booth led him to help many students, as well as employees. He left such an impact that news of his leaving was on Twitter and Facebook. On his last day, many students, both current and graduated, came to say goodbye.

“I do miss it,” Smith said tearfully, recalling interactions with parents, new students, the supposed Xavier ghost and even with potential employees whom he often lent encouragement to.

He enjoyed telling parents about the new life their child would start at Xavier and the values each student would

take with them after. He recounts an incident with the Xavier ghost, a Musketeer who brought him groceries. Smith said that the Musketeer can be seen every day, though he cannot reveal his identity.

He also detailed reassuring potential employees, telling them that they would get the job. According to Smith, his success rate is 1000%.

As for what he’ll do now that he’s left Xavier, Smith said, “What do I do next? I ask myself every day.” He continues his work for the Reds and the Bengals and has also ventured into cooking.

He says if students ever look for him, they can find him walking in Hyde Park with a giant X on his shirt. He assures, “I still bleed blue.”


October 7

Student Government Association Meeting Recap


COURTESY OF CHLOE SALVESON

- Brian Rappach, information security director, discussed the need for students to standardize their email access on mobile devices to increase security by switching over to Outlook mobile application.
- Jeff Edwards, Chief Information Officer, noted the concerns regarding unreliable WiFi on campus. He described the continual upgrades of the wireless access points.
- Vice President Mickey Townsend, along with a group of senators, proposed changes to the SGA Constitution that will take effect in 2022-2023 if Approved. Some changes include the addition of new positions to increase student leadership opportunities and reducing the number of senate seats


—Paid Advertisement—




COVID-19 Vaccine



Clinical trials for a COVID-19 vaccine are enrolling now at the CTI Clinical Research Center, across the parking lot from the Xavier Bookstore.



Qualified participants may be compensated up to ~\$1,250 for time and travel.



To sign up to help bring a COVID-19 vaccine to the world, visit ctifacts.com/signup, call 513-721-3868, or text 513-854-3370.

Prosecutorial hopefuls debate

Joe Deters and Fanon Rucker discussed the death penalty, bail and protests

BY NINA BENICH
Staff Writer

The Hamilton County Prosecutorial Debate between Democrat Fanon Rucker and current Republican Prosecutor Joe Deters was held on Oct. 1.

Each candidate was allowed one minute to speak and 30 seconds for follow-up questions. Topics included possible ways to reduce Cincinnati crime rates, protest, racial injustice and the death penalty.

One of the main differences between the two candidates is their approach to crime and incarceration in Cincinnati. Rucker believes in bail reform, as well as the establishment of a conviction integrity unit and a reentry court.

When asked about plans to reduce violent crime, Rucker brought up the strides that New Jersey took to address this issue.

“By changing the assessment tool, and by eliminating cash bail for nonviolent offenses, they not only reduce(d) their jail population, but they lowered their murder rate by 40%, and they lowered their violent crime rate by 33%,” Rucker stated.

“That is one of the things I’m going to do to reduce violent crime in Hamilton County,” Rucker announced.

Deters is a self-proclaimed “tough-on-crime” prosecutor



Photo courtesy of @jimmywayne via creativecommons.org

Incumbent Hamilton County Prosecutor Joe Deters disagreed with challenger Fanon Rucker on a variety of issue’s during their first debate on Oct. 1. Deters advocated for the death penalty and peaceful protests, while Rucker advocated for the elimination of cash bail and a full-time prosecutor job.

and plans to continue enforcing this stance while enhancing the law enforcement recruitment process.

“The reality is 15% of criminals in this country commit 85% of the crime. The key for law enforcement is to identify what 15% we’re dealing with and seek the longest possible sentences to get them off the streets,” Deters said.

When asked about the recent countrywide protests in response to racially unjust crimes, Rucker stated his belief that “justice demands

consistency,” and that while violent crime should be prosecuted, wrongful charges must also be eliminated.

Deters expressed that he defends peaceful protest, but draws the line when it becomes violent.

When discussing racial injustice, the two candidates agreed in saying that solutions are needed to fix the system’s bias.

The death penalty was also a subject of disagreement between the candidates. The two were asked about their stances on a recent Cincinnati murder

case.

“The issue is not about the fact that we need to punish individuals who threaten, harm, and torture members of our community. The issue is the injustice in the process of how we manipulate our criminal justice system to ensure that it’s fair,” Rucker, who opposes the death penalty, said.

Deters stated that although he may not necessarily want to enforce the death penalty, the “overarching problem” is that he must enforce the law as current prosecutor.

He addressed this once

more in response to Rucker’s counterargument that Hamilton County accounts for 2% of the majority of death penalty cases across the country.

“If you fit our death penalty statute and we don’t have a proof issue, we will seek the death penalty,” Deters commented.

The candidates were also asked about Rucker’s aspiration to make the prosecutorial position a full-time job, rather than part-time. If this change is implemented, the elected candidate will prosecute all crimes committed by both

The Lighter Side

“The Weirdest, Wackiest and Wildest News of the Week!”



Hulk smash, hen party, otter-ly adorable, Bowser crime, lewd ads

- Fast food chain Burger King has started a petition to give their Master Angus burger a Michelin star. Michelin Guide, the group responsible for awarding culinary excellence, has said that they’ll try the burger and judge it by their typical criteria (Oct. 1).
- President Donald Trump’s star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame was defaced again, this time by an unknown individual wearing a Hulk costume and wielding a pickaxe (Oct. 2).
- Two members of an international piracy enterprise, led by a man named Gary Bowser, were charged with fraud. Bowser was charged with fraud and pirating Nintendo Switch hacks (Oct. 2).
- An Irish vegetarian rented out a party

bus and filled it with heisted hens who were days from being slaughtered. To date, she has rescued over 1,000 hens from slaughterhouses with the bus (Oct. 2).

- A North Carolina man was caught trying to steal over six million dollars in government loans by creating fake companies and naming them after *Game of Thrones* characters. The false businesses



Photo courtesy of K Schneider via creativecommons.org

Burger King thinks that its “Master Angus” burger deserves an award.

- included White Walker, Khaleesi and The Night’s Watch (Oct. 3).
- A seed company had its ad removed from Facebook after the media company told managers that their ad imagery was “overtly sexual.” The ad featured a photo of several onions (Oct. 5).
- The Yakuza crime syndicate will no longer be allowed to hand out candy to trick-or-treaters this Halloween (Oct. 5).

Note of the Week

An animal sanctuary in England made a dating profile for Harris, a 10-year-old Asian short-clawed otter, after his long-time partner passed away — and it worked.

“I am very attentive, I love a cuddle and I am a very good listener. I will love you like no otter,” the profile’s bio said of Harris. Sanctuary staff also added that he was looking for true love, not a fling; he wanted a new “significant otter.”

Animal sanctuary employees were then contacted by a different sea life sanctuary that informed Harris’ caretakers that it was interested in setting him up with their single otter, Pumpkin. The pair are planning to meet for a swim later this week (Oct. 4).



Photo courtesy of @kjelljoran via creativecommons.org

A English animal sanctuary found love for its short-clawed otter, online.

Update: EU sues UK over Brexit bill controversy

UK Conservatives voted to rewrite trade deal in a contentious breach of law

BY WILL RIPPEY
Staff Writer

The European Union began pursuing legal charges against the United Kingdom after it failed to remove problematic legislation from its exit bill.

According to European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, “This draft bill is, by its very nature, a breach of the obligation of good faith laid down within the withdrawal agreement. Moreover, if adopted as is, it will be in full contradiction to the protocol on Ireland/Northern Ireland.”

The bill in question would grant U.K. members of Parliament (MPs) the power to rewrite sections of the Withdrawal Agreement that deal with trade.

Under this legislation, MPs would be able to remove any tariffs on Northern Irish imports into the U.K., remove any rules relating to trade on certain goods and override government aid for businesses starting Jan. 1, 2021.

The bill itself was met with approval in the House of Commons, passing 340 - 256. No conservative MPs voted against the bill. Cabinet Minister Michael Grove stated that the U.K. would not withdraw the bill under any circumstances.

However, the bill was not



Photo courtesy of UK Parliament via creativecommons.org

The European Union is suing the United Kingdom, alleging that a hotly-contested Brexit bill would violate EU safety regulations in North Irish trade.

without criticism. According to Northern Ireland Secretary Brandon Lewis, the bill violates international law “in a very specific and limited way.”

The bill would override specific aspects of trade legislation established by the EU in regard to Northern Ireland. Northern Ireland requires trade arrangements specific to it in order to maintain the soft border established by the Good Friday agreement.

This places it at odds with British economic interests, which aim to maintain the same trade legislation across U.K. member-states.

“We have clearly set out our reasons for introducing the measures related to the Northern Ireland protocol. We need to create a legal safety net to protect the integrity of the U.K.’s internal market,” a U.K. government spokesperson stated in a press release.

The trade arrangements for Northern Ireland include requiring Northern Ireland to adhere to EU safety regulations and to fill out customs forms when sending goods to mainland Britain.

British MPs have stated that these regulations infringe too heavily on British sovereignty. Britain is seek-

ing a “no quota, no tariff” deal which would lift these restrictions from Northern Ireland. U.K. officials fear that the EU may attempt to use these restrictions as a means of influencing U.K. politics after Brexit is complete.

EU officials have made it clear that this is the only way for Northern Ireland to maintain its soft border with the Republic of Ireland, the EU member-state which it borders.

If these restrictions are overturned by the U.K., a hard border will be established, which could lead to unrest in the region.

“In the end, if there is a deal on the trade talks, there will have to be a ‘grand bargain,’ where the U.K. drops the offending clauses of the internal market bill if it wants the deal to be ratified on the EU side,” said a senior EU diplomat.

The timing of these proceedings has major economic implications as well. The proceedings could possibly halt the ongoing trade negotiations between the U.K. and the EU.

If a conclusion is not reached by the end of 2020, the U.K. will hard-exit from the EU, which could lead to billions of dollars in tariffs

Photo op: Reading Rd. or Obama Ave.

BY CHARLIE GSTALDER
Opinions and Editorials
Editor

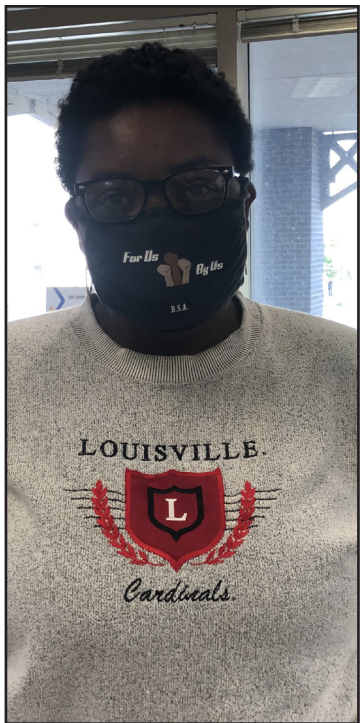
The Cincinnati City Council voted and approved a name change for a large part of Reading Road on Sept. 30. The new name will be President Barack Obama Avenue.

Here’s what Xavier students had to say about the recent name change approval.



“I think it’s kind of weird. I consider myself a Democrat. I liked Barack Obama. I just think that’s a little strange. I obviously wouldn’t be offended. I’m sure there are many people who would be, but I just think it’s kind of weird.”

- Brooke Antilla
Sophomore marketing major



“I think it is a way to undercut everything that Cincinnati has done and not actually talk about or have any conversation about all the police brutality. Instead you want to put a name of a former president as a road? Which also, only a road? That’s all we’re doing here? Like we don’t really care about anything? Because people are still going to call it Reading Road anyways, so it doesn’t even do much.”

- Rue Crittenden
Junior social work major



“I think it’s just for show. I think it’s just for them to prove that they’re ‘on our side.’ Of all people you choose Obama because folks love him and they think they’re going to get more sympathy. I guess it’s a step in the right direction, but just do better.”

- Sierra Stennis
Senior nursing major



“I think that it’s a very performative action. It doesn’t really make sense; of all the names to choose, you chose Barack Obama, which seems like they didn’t really try. They could have picked any African American, any Black person, even ones in Cincinnati. What about Sam Dubois road? It just doesn’t seem very smart to me.”

- Cameron Lakes
Senior criminal justice major



“I fully support it because I think President Barack Obama was a national hero so I think it’s great that Cincinnati wants to honor him.”

- Libby Overfield
Senior PPP and history double major

I don't need more blue lights

Everywhere you go on campus, you can always see a blue light. They are supposed to serve as signs of comfort and security. Xavier prides itself on its safety, with XUPD circling campus often and posters with hotlines plastered everywhere.

But no matter how many police officers and posters we have, Xavier's campus will always be dangerous. College campuses will always be dangerous, because the world is dangerous.

Science and technology have put people on the moon. We have planes, trains and cars, not to mention minicomputers we carry around in our pockets. And even with all this advancement, the people of the world still have not figured out how to respect each other on the most basic level. Violent crimes such as murder, assault and rape are still highly prevalent both globally and locally.

According to the Cincinnati Enquirer, between Janu-

ary and April of 2020, there were 30 homicides in the city of Cincinnati. Despite this violence, Cincinnati is generally considered to be a safe city. Similarly, Xavier is considered to be a safe campus.

Sadly, even though Xavier has a strong reputation and many strategies in place to promote safety, violent crimes continue to occur on campus, namely rape. As reported by the U.S. Department of Education, 14 rapes occurred on campus in 2018. Those 14 reported rapes, along with all the other sexual assaults that went unreported, still occurred despite all the precautions put in place to prevent them from happening.

No amount of blue lights or XUPD patrols can stop these crimes from happening, as many of these assaults occur in campus housing behind closed doors. Obviously, a different course of action needs to be taken to help eliminate this issue.

The traditional methods

of curbing crime are not doing the trick when it comes to stopping sexual assault on college campuses. We must go back to the source and stop these crimes before they occur. The only way to decrease the number of victims is to decrease the number of perpetrators. This can only be done if there is a societal shift, one that redefines what the appropriate way to treat others is. Through making these widespread changes in social norms, we can educate possible perpetrators and change the culture around sexual assault.

Some of this work has already begun. Awareness has been the first major step towards change, especially on Xavier's campus. Before even stepping foot on campus, incoming students are required to complete an online training course on sexual harassment and assault. The training includes an abundance of important information that relates to sexual violence. As I

worked through the training myself, I watched videos of hypothetical situations that could have turned into something unsafe, learned skills to protect myself and others, and I was educated on how to help try to defuse negative situations before they can result in an attack. Consent was defined multiple times and was highlighted throughout the training.

In doing this training, I felt encouraged by the fact that all incoming students were required to partake in this program. I had some hope that issues of consent and assault would be greatly decreased based on the general understanding the student body has on the issue. I was sadly mistaken.

Once on campus, I discovered that many of my peers paid little to no attention to their training. Some had simply clicked through the modules — important information being blatantly ignored. Unfortunately, the unifying

understanding I had hoped for quickly faded away. I had hoped for change. The tools for change were put in our hands, but for some reason we continued to ignore them.

While the blue lights and the XUPD officers do help me to feel safer here, campus will never truly be safe until the people in it are truly dedicated to making change. It cannot be a select few that take the issue of sexual assault to heart; it must be all of us. We all must make the choice to educate ourselves and respect each other if our campus, or the world, is ever going to become a safe place.



Emma Stevens is a first-year early childhood education major. She is a Guest Writer for Newswire from Milford, Ohio.

I don't want to have kids

I don't want to have kids. And when I hear my mother or uncle or grandpa dotting on me, saying I'll change my mind, I wonder why that matters. Or why they can't put on a smile and nod. This isn't hard to do.

My reproductive choices shouldn't be questioned in the first place. Women already receive flack in our society for having a uterus and ovaries (as if that's a choice), but if you decide not to put them to use, suddenly you're the bad guy.

The issue is clear. I don't meet the universal expectation of women to give birth. I must develop some kind of superhuman ability to nurture right after I perfectly handle the rapid changes occurring within my body, as I glow throughout pregnancy, and eventually, I will cling to my newborn lovingly as if I had always been wrong for opposing having children.

Feminism fails the women who declare themselves childfree. It's disgusting, and I don't need to validate why

there's a growing amount of reasons to not succumb to gender-related pressures such as raising a family. But I can offer a few for those who are reading.

In 2017, the United States Department of Agriculture released a study regarding the cost of raising a child. The price — not including the cost of college — is \$233,610 on average. How much of us have that much saved up by 24, the age determined by the Centers for Disease Control as the lowest median of motherhood? Not many, considering the average savings balance of a household with one child is a measly \$42,800.

If you're not convinced yet — still willing to sacrifice debt for the joy that is birth — costs to deliver a baby typically range from \$400 to \$500 with insurance, and then the infant itself born with a fee attached dependent upon health, starting at \$1,500.

Money doesn't have to be the determining reason.

If that were the case, plenty of women wouldn't ever give birth due to debt or other costs of living. It's a major factor worth seriously evaluating in a world where money directly correlates to quality of life.

I shouldn't have to cite the pains of childbirth as a cause for turning heads away from the idea (hemorrhoids, vaginal and anal tearing, post-partum depression, etc.). If a woman desperately desires to build a family, she may have to endure it. Or not. There are 443,000+ orphans in U.S. foster care. And there's the rising risk of overpopulation soon turning resources enjoyed at leisure into luxury goods.

The NASA website explains how mathematician Safa Motesharrei explores the idea of unsustainability mixed with rapid population growth, further increasing the already significant gap between the wealthy and impoverished — a society uncontrollable and ultimately destroyed by itself.

As dramatic as this scenario sounds, we aren't far from it today.

In the past, there were reasons to say a woman shouldn't put her child in a position of navigating the terrifying future of the U.S.: world wars, nuclear weaponry or economic depressions. But now, we cannot remain ignorant when there's exact science to warn us that Earth is approaching a point of no return. I'd rather not shove innocents toward a position I'd certainly resent being born into.

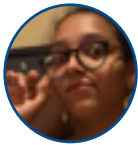
Shaming a woman for stating they are childfree is neglecting our duty as Americans to maintain feminist values and ensure equality for all. Women are pitted against each other on a daily basis for appearances' sake, and it's already tiring enough.

For those who end up disgraced, bullied or waved away by loved ones simply for choosing a life choice far from even beginning to affect others around them,

well, that's when we need to reassess our priorities in life.

A choice is a choice. I'll respect yours while I lounge on the beach and send a postcard to your family wondering when you'll actually have the time or funds to join my child-freedom.

And if my mother gets her wish — highly unlikely, sorry mom — I'll still support anyone who journeys down a different path, because that's what any normal human being is expected to do. Don't shame any woman for maintaining the little control over her body that she has.



Morgan Miles is a first-year Philosophy, Politics and the Public major. She is a Guest Writer for Newswire from Trenton, Ohio.

THE STAFF

Editor-in-Chief
Heather Gast

Managing Editor
Alex Budzynski

Campus News Editor
Joseph Cotton

World News Editor
Mo Juenger

Opinions & Editorials Editor
Charlie Gstalder

Sports Editor
Joe Clark

Arts & Entertainment Editor
Kate Ferrell

Back Page Editor
Aidan Callahan

Head Copy Editor
Molly K. Hulligan

Copy Editors
Nina Benich, Tess Brewer, Stella Demarco, Amanda Gast, Grace Hamilton, Will Rippey, Maggie Schroeder

Staff Writers
Emily Kracik, Joe Laurich,

Interns
Terryon Adams, Erin Albright, Nina Benich, Carter Daniels, Grace Hamilton, Chloe Salvesson

Social Media and Online Editor
Mya Priester

Multimedia Manager
Hunter Ellis

Multimedia Editor
Will Pembroke

Photography Editor
Desmond Fischer

Distribution Manager
Joseph Cotton

Adviser
John Stowell

Mission Statement
The Xavier Newswire is committed to reporting the news as well as explain its significance to readers. In addition, through publishing opposing viewpoints and opinions, the Newswire hope to foster a dialogue on campus, among students, faculty and staff.

Advertising
All inquiries should be directed to the Business Manager,

Melissa Navarra by email at newswire@xavier.edu or at www.xaviernewswire.com

For Your Information
Xavier Newswire is published weekly throughout the school year, except during vacations and final exams, by the students of Xavier University, 3800 Victory Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45207.

Newswire also releases online articles and a newsletter on Monday mornings and works with XUFM to produce a weekly radio show, *Xavier Newswire Live*.

On dealing with the oppressor’s hubris

Is it not comical how arrogant we are of our being?

As citizens of a “glorious” nation, we are confident that war will never tear our homes. As healthy people, we lounge comfortably, thinking that disease will never rip us limb from limb. As educated people, we tend to believe we are protected from ignorance. As nourished people, we think not of the pain of starvation and dehydration. And as we acquire status, we trust that our fame and wealth will shield us from mortality.

We tend to fancy the idea that the trials of life are not for us, as we are the protagonists of our lives, untouched by misfortune. We accept that if these calamities were to befall us, it would be sooner rather than later.

But when those inevitabilities come close to striking us or our loved ones with unyielding force, it is then we are humbled and reminded of our rightful place beneath the laws of nature. It is then we come to realize that demise does not discriminate with regards to wealth, color, creed or status. It is then we give back to others for the harms we’ve done. It is then we live to the fullest. It is then we ponder our end and tremble at thoughts of the afterlife; a metaphysical fight or flight response.

But until then, we would never discuss our mortality so

firmly, as that would be an admission of humility.

Education, access to food, good health, the ability to work and gain connections. All of these are factors that constitute a better chance at ascending the social pyramid. But these tools for success can be easily misused. Those who misuse them are known throughout the course of history as the enemies of the masses.

The worst of them are plunderers of wealth, drinkers of blood, violators of the weak and propagators of injustice. In a word: the oppressors.

The arrogance of these people is unlike anything ever witnessed in our interpersonal and political interactions. The oppressors are proud when responsible for the imminent death of others, yet cower in fear when their death is imminent.

They enslave, torture, rape, kill, mutilate, burn and conquer. Their hubris acts as a source for their power and propels them to commit these atrocities. They genuinely believe that their wealth, education, health and status will guard them in this life against all manners of nature. The oppressors deny the fact that every soul shall taste the torment of death. Or rather, they believe that everyone will meet death but themselves.

The only cure to this

god-complex is true empathy, which requires the subject to have experience of the condition that the sufferer is enduring or has endured. If you had been subjected to an unprecedented amount of trauma, empathy would feel genuine if received from someone who knows what it’s like to suffer that pain.

As for the oppressor, he would cease his heedless destruction of mankind if he were to endure the same pain he is subjecting to the common folk. Undoubtedly, if he were to feel the same scathing agony that he is causing, it would humble him. If he were to lose some of his wit and knowledge, health and ability or wealth and status, he would shrink into oblivion and wallow in his destitution.

But the oppressors have never thought to put themselves in the place of those they wreak havoc upon. The capitalists can never understand what it’s like to be born poor and die homeless, as they are the ones who bring such calamities. The warmongers can never know what it’s like to see the onslaught of their kith and kin daily, as they are the ones who bring such calamities.

The hoarders of land and bodies of water have never felt the physical toll of malnourishment and dehydration as they are the one who bring such calamities. They

will never understand what it’s like to lose something of value until we step up to take it from them.

What will we, the common folk, take from them?

Everything. The land they own and reap from its fertility, the waters they blacken with their industrial waste. The mansions and yachts they buy and sell like peanuts. The empty units of public housing they tend to, while people walk roofless in the rain. And the factories and stores they force us to work in under the threat of poverty.

We must take hold of it all. And in addition, we must seek to give them the true empathy they rightfully deserve. We give them every ounce of what they have given us in the course of human history. The blood, the pain, the tears, the cries for mercy. As stated in the beginning, it is when backed into a corner that people begin to repent and regret.

But we will not heed to their pleas. We must show them what it’s like to suffer by the hands of another. Everything they have given we shall return with an unyielding rage. That is when they will show humility. That is when they will ask themselves in terror, “We did this to these people?” That is when they will empathize.

It is unwise of us to demand humility and mercy from the oppressor and to

expect him to carry forth this request with gusto. The only option is to take matters into our own hands. We are now the judges and the suppressors of freedom are guilty by unanimous decision. We, from the class of the oppressed, will not reconcile.

We will not take the middle ground, and we will not compromise. If the oppressors refuse to humble themselves, then we will humble them ourselves. If they will not emphasize with our suffering, then we will make them empathize. We will not simply wait for pity, for they have not given any to us and neither shall we to them.

Oh oppressor, prepare yourself for all of us. From the farmer, the craftsman and the artisan. To the poor, the homeless and the distraught. From the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea and from the Sahel to the Namib.

For when our turn comes, we shall make no excuse for the terror.



Waleed Majid is a first-year Philosophy, Politics and the Public major. He is a Staff Writer for Newswire from Cincinnati.

Amazon hurts people

Amazon forces its employees to work in unsafe conditions and not enough people know about it or how their purchases contribute to this. The more we, as consumers, make purchases from Amazon, the more we enable these dangerous work environments.

In 2020, it seems as if everyone is an Amazon user. The site, which allows you to browse through thousands of products that can arrive at your house in just two days, has become a dominant provider in almost every market.

Amazon’s reach over the past 15 years has grown tremendously because of the capitalist system we live in. Not only does the company specialize in quick and easy online shopping, but Amazon also recently purchased Whole Foods, an organic grocer found nationwide.



Erin Albright is a first-year philosophy major. She is an intern for Newswire from Milford, Conn.

Most consumers do not realize the dangerous and undesirable conditions Amazon warehouse workers must endure to complete their everyday job. Let me tell you a little bit about them before you make your next online purchase.

An average of 1.6 million packages are shipped each day, requiring a strong and steady workforce in Amazon warehouses. To accomplish this great task, one would think that Amazon’s working conditions would need to be perfectly ideal so that it could maintain its efficiency promise to its customers, right?

Well, instead of placing them in a safe space everyday, Amazon is willing to let its workers be injured on the job as long as the packages are at someone’s house two days later.

Demanding conditions for workers include having to scan 300 items each hour. Unsafe conditions have injured workers as they have tripped over ladders or had heavy boxes fall on them. Injury rates at the Staten Island facility are three times the national average for warehouses. If workers do not make their rate of items packaged per hour or items

processed, they risk being fired.

The pressure put on the workers is more than need be. The company has plenty of workers to sustain the efficiency promise that they boast of. Grueling working conditions should not be necessary to run a large-scale business. I understand that Amazon is a larger company than most and has a strict schedule that must be followed, but I feel that if the health and safety of workers is being put below revenue, a company is in the wrong mindset.

Workers who by law are required to receive disability accommodations have even reported being forcibly put into positions that they are unable to work in. This is incredibly unethical, and supporting a company that endorses putting workers in an environment which it knows they are not fit for is so wrong.

And now, in the presence of a pandemic, workers have been forced to strike until safer conditions were made to prevent the further spread between Amazon warehouse employees. Employees shouldn’t have had to protest to receive better treatment during a world health crisis.

It should’ve been given to them.

How many workers’ lives is your purchase worth? Especially when you could get it from a company that takes better care of its employees?

Since March, more than 20,000 Amazon employees have tested positive for COVID-19. Ten of its workers even died of the virus. The company has made recent boasts of its initiatives to stop the spread, including frequent tests and temperature checks at work sites.

But is the company doing enough? How many workers’ lives is your purchase worth? Especially when you could get it from a company that takes better care of its employees?

I find it hard to understand how so many people can quickly forget how Amazon has treated its workers. Everyday they are forced into unsafe and extremely undesirable conditions. When news of how the workers were being treated first came out, everyone cared and was posting on their Instagram stories. But here we are now: everyone has forgotten and

is once again furthering the problem that Amazon has created.

Growing up, I remember being told countless times to “practice what you preach.” But if we are preaching that it is not right to support big businesses that have such little care for its employees and then supporting that business ourselves, are we making any positive changes?

Obviously it would take most people in the world boycotting Amazon to make significant changes. But, if more people slowly learn the terrible conditions workers are forced into, changes could be made. Amazon could be forced to bring the pressure on workers down and to give them better and safer conditions. What needs to happen is we all need to be more aware of the companies they support.

If you are backing a company that goes directly against what you tell others to be wary of, you are being a hypocrite. I urge you to research the companies you choose to support, and don’t support those who do not care about their workers.

Women's soccer prepared for spring

The team is continuing to practice and workout in preparation for season

BY SETH ELLIS
Guest Writer

In a normal year, Xavier's varsity fall athletic seasons would be well underway with the Musketeers taking on Big East foes in a variety of sports.

However, as everyone knows, 2020 has been anything but a normal year.

On Aug. 12, the Big East announced that it would be postponing all of its 2020 fall sports. This is a decision that was made by other conferences, such as the Ivy League and Xavier's former athletic home, the Atlantic 10.

Other conferences, such as the Big 10 and Mid-American Conference, have recently reneged on their postponements of fall sports. However, since the Big East does not have the cash flow created by football as an enticement for going back, it is unlikely that it will make the same decision.

The sports affected by the Big East's decision are men's and women's soccer, cross country and volleyball.

While athletes in these sports are allowed to practice and work out (with proper



NewsWire photo by Desmond Fischer

Xavier women's soccer has been one of the teams most affected by the Big East's decision to postpone fall sports until the spring. However, the move could have positive repercussions in terms of exposure.

COVID-19 precautions), they will not be playing any games until spring of 2021 at the earliest.

"We prepared like we were playing all the way up until we weren't," Carrie Lewis, a redshirt senior and midfielder on the Xavier varsity women's soccer team said. "It does naturally take a little bit of a toll on us because we're training all the time and we're not playing, and come the spring,

who knows what it will look like," Lewis said.

Obviously, this has not been an ideal situation, but Xavier student-athletes are not idle during this time.

"As a team, we try to control what we can control," Lewis said "Now we're treating the fall like an offseason. We're still practicing five days a week and lifting and running."

Fellow Big East member

Georgetown University is fully remote at the moment, meaning their student-athletes cannot practice as a team.

Of course, any team at any school could be forced to quarantine at any time. This could cause varying levels of readiness amongst teams, but Lewis believes that her team is prepared for the challenge.

Lewis also praised the leadership of their Head

Coach Nate Lie "does a really good job of saying 'roll with the punches.' We don't get too high as a team; we don't get too low as a team," Lewis is said. "Whatever comes our way, we're prepared for."

However, Lewis expects their competition to be ready as well.

"I think everyone will be competitive. The Big East is becoming a really good conference," she said.

There also could be a silver lining for fall sports that are typically overshadowed by college football in terms of recognition and exposure. Playing during the spring would potentially allow these teams to get more time in the spotlight.

Increased television time would not only benefit individual teams but also benefit different sports in their entirety.

"I think it could be amazing for soccer," Lewis said of this potential exposure.

"The big two sports are football and basketball, and if we play in the spring, basketball will be basically done, and the attention could be on soccer."

NHL Draft Recap: Rangers take Alexis Lafreniere

BY JOE LAURICH
Staff Writer

The first round of the 2020 NHL Draft took place on Tuesday night. As expected, the New York Rangers took Canadian forward Alexis Lafreniere with the first overall selection in the draft.

Lafreniere accumulated 112 points last season in the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League, scoring 35 goals to go with 77 assists in 52 games played.

Lafreniere will join Hart Trophy candidate Artemi Panarin and former second overall pick Kappo Kakko on the Rangers.

Quinton Byfield became the highest drafted Black player in NHL history, as the talented center was drafted second overall by the Los Angeles Kings.

Byfield played for the Sudbury Wolves in the Ontario Hockey League, scoring 32 goals with 50 assists last season.

With a virtual draft, possibilities for TV production are endless, and the NHL got it right by having Alex Trebek announce the third overall pick from the *Jeopardy!* set. Trebek, who is from Ottawa, announced that his hometown Senators selected forward Tim Stutzle.

Swede Lucas Raymond went fourth overall to the Detroit Red Wings, while the Senators, who also held the fifth overall pick, selected



Photo courtesy of Creative Commons

Alexis Lafreniere was the consensus top player in the 2020 NHL Draft and he was selected with the first overall pick by the NY Rangers. Lafreniere scored 35 goals and tallied 77 assists in juniors last season.

Jake Sanderson.

As with most years, the draft also included a few trades, with the biggest being Max Domi and a third round pick being traded from

Toronto to Columbus in exchange for Josh Anderson.

The Calgary Flames also traded down in the draft, moving down from pick No. 19 to pick No. 22, and then again

from No. 22 to No. 24, while acquiring the No. 72 and No. 80 picks in the process.

The biggest surprise of the night was the Columbus Blue Jackets selecting Ye-

gor Chinakhov with the 21st overall selection.

Most draft experts didn't expect Chinakhov to be drafted within the first two rounds. Chinakhov got off to a solid start in the Kontinental Hockey League season, which likely impacted in Columbus' decision.

While nine Americans were taken in the first round of the 2019 draft, just Sanderson and Brendon Bisson, who went 29th overall to the Vegas Golden Knights were taken in the first round this year. Nineteen of the first 31 selections hailed from Canada.

Before the rest of the draft kicked off on Wednesday, the Senators made headlines again by acquiring two-time Stanley Cup winning Goalie Matt Murray from the Pittsburgh Penguins.

Murray was outplayed by Tristan Jarry last season, and the Penguins decided to give Jarry a contract extension and keep him as their starter going forward. In exchange for Murray, the Penguins acquired the No. 52 pick and prospect Jonathan Gruden.

The Predators and the Wild also made a notable trade on Wednesday morning, as the Wild acquired Murray's former Pittsburgh teammate Nick Bonino along with a second and third round pick from the Predators for forward Luke Kunin and a fourth round pick.

Titans' COVID-19 outbreak forces postponement

BY GRACE CARLO
Guest Writer

It was only a matter of time before a large COVID-19 outbreak affected the regular NFL season.

During its fourth week, the Tennessee Titans suffered with its large number of positive tests resulting in the need to push back its game to stop the spread of COVID-19.

Last week, the team had over 16 positive cases, resulting in the postponement of its game against the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Players who tested positive on the Titans include wide receiver Adam Humphries, practice squad receiver Cameron Batson, nose tackle DaQuan Jones, linebacker Kamalei Correa, cornerback Kristian Fulton, long-snapper Beau Brinkley, practice squad tight end Tommy Hudson and defensive end Jeffery Simmons.

The Titans had a total of eight players and eight staff members test positive at the same time, causing the cancellation of the upcoming game.

Coach Mike Vrabel told ESPN that some players who tested positive were experiencing flu-like symptoms.

Last Thursday, the NFL announced that the Titans'



The Tennessee Titans have had 20 positive COVID-19 cases in the last week, causing their game last weekend to get postponed. With more positive cases this week, their game this weekend is up in the air.

game against the Pittsburgh Steelers would no longer be played during Week four due to the abundance of positive COVID-19 cases.

The team's outbreak resulted in the need for the game to be pushed back, and the Titans are now scheduled to play the Steelers in Week seven.

Since last week's outbreak, it seemed like the tables have turned as NFL Network Insider Ian Rapoport reported Monday morning that "the Tennessee Titans had zero positive COVID-19 results from Sunday's round of testing." The team had planned to return this weekend having zero positive cases.

A statement was released on Tuesday, saying the league adjusted protocols with emphasis on new safety measures. New video monitoring was implemented to ensure that all protocols and policies would be followed, including the required usage of personal protective equipment.

According to the NFL

website, "The NFL threatened forfeiture of games if a team is unable to play due to a COVID-19 outbreak caused by failing to follow protocol."

However, NFL Network's Tom Pelissero reported Wednesday morning that two Titans players tested positive for COVID-19, setting the program back on hold and putting this weekend's game in jeopardy.

In other news, New England Patriots Quarterback Cam Newton tested positive for COVID-19 on Saturday, postponing the Patriots' matchup against them. However, Newton was asymptomatic and is hopeful to return later this week.

His Patriots teammate, cornerback Stephon Gilmore, also tested positive on Wednesday.

The NFL has been steady with the amount of positive test results obtained, as Titans has been the largest overall outbreak yet.

Despite this, there is hope that all 32 teams will remain healthy throughout the rest of the season without having to use a bubble.

The Titans currently have a 3-0 record and are scheduled to play this coming Sunday at home against the Bills.

French Open field filled with youth *Lack of big names has opened the field up on women's side*

BY WILL PEMBROKE
Associate Multimedia Editor

The action has been intense heading into the quarter-finals round of the French Open.

No. 1 ranked player in the world, Novak Djokovic, has dominated the field with his play, winning in three sets every round prior to his quarter-final matchup.

Similarly, the No. 2 ranked player, Rafael Nadal, has shown out, winning in an impressive fashion which has landed him in the semi-finals.

Nadal battled through a long night in his last match, playing all the way until almost 2 a.m. to secure a win in the latest-running tennis match finish of all time.

On the women's side of things, stars Serena Williams and Simona Halep saw early exits, opening the field to lesser known players who are making a name for themselves.

Defending French Open champion Ashleigh Barty and U.S. Open winner Naomi Osaka did not participate in this year's tournament, so the field was especially new to viewers.

The outstanding performer so far has been a Polish player ranked No. 54 in the world, Iga Swiatek. Swiatek was extremely impressive in her match against Simon Halep,



Novak Djokovic is the top seeded men's player in the 2020 French Open. Djokovic is expected to match up with Rafael Nadal, who's ranked No. 2. Djokovic would be looking for his second career French Open championship.

the title favorite. She lost only three games the entire match en route to her victory. Swiatek has lauded her improvements in her mental game as the reason for her success this year.

Another relatively unknown name heading into the tournament was the Italian player Martina Trevisan.

Following a lengthy battle with an eating disorder which

kept her out of tennis for an extended period of time, Trevisan has absolutely balled out in France, upsetting notable stars Kiki Bertens, Maria Sakkari and Coco Gauff.

On the men's side, another exciting match between No. 1 and No. 2 ranked Djokovic and Nadal, respectively, will capture lots of attention and undoubtedly lead to a fantastic finish.

On the contrary, the women's side offers a fascinating look at some of the game's youngest stars as they battle it out to see who is the new champion to beat and who could become the next face of the sport.

Two different perspectives coming out of the French Open, and both will be incredible to watch unfold throughout this week.

Sports Banter

Bill O'no

The Texans fired Head Coach/General Manager Bill O'Brien on Monday after starting out the season 0-4. O'Brien wasn't a bad head coach, but couldn't have been worse as a GM, so Bill the coach had to pay for Bill the GM.

Two Strikes and You're Out

Home plate umpire CB Bucknor made one of the worst strike calls in MLB history during Game 2 of the ALDS between the Yankees and Rays. The call led to an eventual strikeout, and according to win probability his calls cost the Yankees a full run during the game.

Party in the MIA

A Monday article in The Athletic revealed that while studying at Marquette University, Jimmy Butler had a particular affinity for Hannah Montana and Miley Cyrus (yes, I know they're the same person). While Butler toted around a Hannah Montana backpack, he was notorious for knowing every word to Party in the USA.

Disney lays off thousands of staff

BY GRIFFIN BRAMMER
Staff Writer

As COVID-19 hinders business at Disney's theme parks and resorts, the company has begun the process of laying off 28,000 of its American employees.

All affected employees were park workers and cast members, with around two-thirds of the laid off employees being part time workers.

Disney has cited the main cause of these layoffs as a need to control the number of occupants in a park at a given time to best follow social distancing guidelines.

While Disney World in Orlando, Fla. (along with many of Disney's other parks in Asia and Europe) reopened after closing earlier this year, the company has lost profits from its parks globally, with a reported 91% decrease in profits from the first three months of this year.

As of now, the only global park not officially reopened is Disneyland in Anaheim, Calif., with only a small section of the park open to visitors in a "phased reopening" after a stream of COVID-19 guidelines and health checks.

This brings up a secondary reason for the layoffs. Disney cites the California government's "unwillingness to lift restrictions that would allow Disneyland to reopen."

During an interview regarding the layoffs, Josh D'Amaro, chairman of Disney's parks, stated, "As diffi-



Photo courtesy of Pixabay.com

The laying off of thousands of Disney employees leaves current employees of the company and hopeful new ones, scared for their future as they face many uncertainties and a lack of thorough employee communication.

cult as this decision is today, we believe that the steps we are taking will enable us to emerge a more effective and efficient operation when we return to normal."

He remains hopeful that the fired employees might receive their jobs back in a post-COVID-19 world.

"We look forward to providing opportunities where we can for them to return," D'Amaro added.

Some were quick to share their disappointment in the company's decision. The Service Trades Council Union (STCU), a group whose six different unions across the Disney parks represent over 43,000 cast members, tweeted, "We were disappointed to learn that the COVID-19 cri-

sis has led Disney to make the decision to layoff Cast Members."

The STCU has focused on helping those cast members affected by the layoffs to get all the necessary information they need. The organization has scheduled to meet with Disney to lead negotiations on the layoffs. On top of that, it has mentioned procuring information on how long staff members' health insurance, recall rights and other job benefits will last after the layoffs.

It has since been reported that 6,700 of these layoffs will affect non-union members. In addition, the layoffs will reportedly begin in early December.

"As you can imagine, a de-

cision of this magnitude is not easy. We've cut expenses, suspended capital projects, furloughed our cast members while still paying benefits and modified our operations to run as efficiently as possible. However, we simply cannot responsibly stay fully staffed while operating at such limited capacity," D'Amaro wrote in an employee memo.

The public has found fault with Disney's decision to lay-off so many employees. First-year business analytics and marketing major Avery Strychasz has taken an interest in the Disney College Program.

"As someone who is interested in the business world, it is concerning from an employee standpoint, but not surprising," Strychasz stated.

"They're a huge corporation, and it's a numbers game for them. They need to stay in the green, and unfortunately that comes at the expense of people's livelihood," she continued.

Ultimately, however, the decision still leaves some hope in her, especially when it comes to her participation in the Disney College Program.

"It's definitely a concern," Strychasz said, "but I think they are trying to do what's for the best interest of the majority of their employees and their company."

While the news has perhaps swayed the opinions of the company for others and the program as a whole also faces uncertainty in a world occupied by a pandemic, Strychasz remains motivated to become a member of the company.

"(This issue) definitely doesn't deter me from joining the program," she clarified. "If anything it motivates me to be the one person that they can't lay off, to be the best person in my field that I can possibly be."

While this decision is sure to affect many Disney employees, resources for cast members at risk or in need have already started to pop up.

A Disney employee-led organization known as Cast Member Pantry plans to continue donating necessary food and groceries to employees that have been most impacted by the layoffs and hindrances created by COVID-19.

YouTuber's debut album fosters excitement

BY BEN THOMSON
Staff Writer

There's nothing more satisfying than watching an artist grow over a long period of time. I take joy in not only seeing a small artist reach a wider audience, but also seeing talent be fully realized and expressed.

I've been aware of Adam Johnston for five years. When I discovered him, it was under his YouTube channel "YourMovieSucksDotOrg," where he reviewed films with a dry, sardonic sense of humor.

After a year of watching him, however, I discovered his second channel: "An Unkindness." Here, he posted music written and performed by

him.

Out of curiosity, I decided to check out his song "Fragments" from 2010. And... I liked it. A lot, actually. Enough to be excited for the album he was promising.

So, for the next four years, I patiently waited as Johnston worked on both his album and his reviews. And then, ten days ago, he released it.

In his aptly named album, "10 Years," Johnston shows his true potential as a musician.

For starters, he's a jack of many trades. Nearly every aspect of the album is done by him. He sings, he writes the music, he plays almost every instrument.

Make no mistake, the man has loads of musical talent. This both helps and hinders the album.

While he does an excellent job playing the instruments, the fact that all of the elements are him makes the record feel very amateur.

At times, the sounds feel stitched together, and they just barely come together to make the whole.

When it comes to the lyrics, each song is deeply personal (if not too much so). The benefit of Johnston being a YouTuber is that his personal life is public knowledge. So while some of the mystery may be missing from the lyrics, the experience is almost improved when you have the context for each song.

At times, however, Johnston writes too much. Some verses go on too long, and the flow is hindered as a result. Some verses even throw off the beat of the song.

Overall, the album flows very well. For an indie production, "10 Years" is a success. This is a great example of time being used wisely and goes to show what careful



Photo courtesy of bandcamp.com

Adam Johnston, most notoriously know for his career as a YouTuber, is making his debut into the music scene with his new album "10 Years."

work and perfection can do to a final product.

As a debut album, the record is a great showcase of Johnston's talents and how far he's come since his days mak-

ing EPs for YouTube.

I can't wait to see what Johnston has coming up, even if I have to wait another 10 years for the final product. At least I have this one for now.



Photo courtesy of Commons.wikimedia.com

Photo Op: *Parks and Rec* goodbye

BY CHLOE SALVESON
Staff Writer

As of the first of Oct. 1, beloved comedy show *Parks and Recreation* has been removed from Netflix. Here is what some Xavier students had to say about the show's recent removal.



Photo courtesy of Flickr.com



"I'm not nervous about it because I've only seen one episode. It's free on Amazon Prime last I checked. *The Office* is better."

Cedar Earlywine
First-year Philosophy, Politics and the Public major



"Ron Swanson is the best person ever. Leslie Knope's work ethic will never be forgotten. F*ck Netflix for taking the show off."

Adrian Stuphan
First-year finance major



"I actually didn't know *Parks and Rec* was leaving Netflix! To me, it's one of the best comedies of the past decade, and it's a shame that *Parks and Rec* is leaving Netflix."

Alison Dible
First-year theatre performance and English double major



Photo courtesy of Insider.com



"I think it's super sad they're taking *Parks and Rec* off Netflix. The good news is I've heard it's moving to Peacock, and I've already subscribed to it, so I can watch it there!"

Jordan Perez
Senior management and finance double major



"I liked *Parks and Rec* a lot. It was a good show to rewatch episodes of whenever you were bored or needed some background noise. It stinks that Netflix is deciding to move away from it. I feel it's not the best decision since it's a pretty popular show, and I feel like it is rewatched a lot."

Jake Prestileo
Sophomore psychology major

Prequel series *Ratched* disappoints devoted fans

BY ANDREW ZERMAN
Staff Writer

2020 marks 45 years since *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* was released. The film introduced Nurse Ratched, one of the most iconic villains in cinematic history.

Netflix adapted a prequel series that is supposed to delve into how *Ratched* became evil. While the show has a great cast and aesthetically pleasing scenery, the plot holes and infidelity to the character of Nurse Ratched in the original film are impediments that cannot be overlooked.

The show starts with a young Mildred Ratched (Sarah Paulson) gaining employment at a psychiatric ward shortly after World War II.

It does not take long for her to develop a rivalry with her superior, Nurse Bucket (Judy Davis). They are employed during the peak of controversial hospital treatments, and the procedures are performed by Dr. Hanover (Jon Jon Briones).

The series quickly progresses into a series of subplots that detract from the character of *Ratched*, and most of these subplots are not resolved until the final episode.

The design may be the best

thing about the series. The sets are gorgeous. They are extensive and pay homage to the 1940s in almost every manner imaginable. Some scenes are bathed entirely in red and green as part of an artistic choice.

This show was primarily filmed in coastal California, so the pleasant scenery is not much of a surprise. The nurses have turquoise gowns and the hospital has a multi-colored lounge that looks more like something out of a five-star hotel. Ironically, the actual hospital is anything but pleasant.

If you want the hospital from hell, you definitely have one here. The nurses have sex with the patients. Lobotomies are performed, and patients are dunked into scorching hot water for the sake of "treatment."

Patients escape the ward in seemingly every other episode. The employees have just about as many qualifications for their job as Donald Trump has to be president.

Ratched features Ryan Murphy as a producer. Murphy created *American Horror Story*, and although he is not listed as a director past the first episode, his creative imprint is present. The film resided within the drama genre, but



Photo courtesy of @PaulsnBlanchett on Twitter

Even with its captivating scenery and all-star cast, new show *Ratched* fails to overcome distracting elements that inhibit the shows success.

Ryan Murphy chose to make this one part of the horror genre.

Ratched relies on body horror over psychological horror in a similar manner to *American Horror Story*. A story apparently cannot be a story without amputating limbs, drilling into skulls and slitting wrists. If you do not have a strong stomach, I would not recommend watching this.

The Nurse Ratched that we see in this series is very different from the Nurse Ratched that is in *One Flew Over the*

Cuckoo's Nest. In the film, she is portrayed as cold, emotionless and wanting everything in order.

In this Netflix series, she delights in chaos, drives people to suicide and blackmails people in order to get what she wants. Then, in the final few episodes she suddenly changes from being cold to being emotional and having a romantic relationship.

She suddenly cares about the wellbeing of others, which is very contrary to what the film envisioned. This series is

not a descent into monstrosity like Netflix advertised it. Instead we see the opposite, and the beginning that shows her as a monster.

Paulson excels in the lead of *Ratched*. Given the genre of the series and the fact that she is a regular on *American Horror Story*, I do not think that there is a better actress picked for the lead role.

She does not just act out characters, but she envisions herself being put in their shoes. *Ratched* is portrayed as unstable throughout the series and she adopts an appropriate persona for that.

Unfortunately, it does not matter if a captain of a ship does a good job as a leader. If the ship is not well built, it will sink, and we see this here.

Perhaps the series would be more enjoyable had I not had a film to compare it to. I would not recommend watching the film prior to this show because it will ruin your perception of the series.

American Horror Story fans may find delight in this show since it is essentially a carbon copy of it. Other people may be disappointed with the product.

The show is not my favorite per se, but it was enough to keep me watching and thinking about a second season.

Who the stars think your
celebrity
crush
should be



Aries: You're cool and all, but your sister is cooler. Why not crush on a guy who also has a way cooler sibling, like **Dave Franco**?



Taurus: As a Taurus, you're practical. You want the perfect husband: Danny Tanner from *Full House*. But he's not real, so the next best guy is **Bob Saget**.



Gemini: Gemini are fun and serious, classic and trendy, all at the same time. You need a guy who will be able to adapt to your changing needs, such as **all four Beatles**.



Cancer: Cancers are homebodies. They'd much rather stay at home watching a movie than go to some big party. Your crush should not only want to stay home with you, but HAVE to stay home with you. Because they're quarantined. Like the COVID-positive **Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson**.



Leo: Leo's have high expectations — they'll never settle for a guy who isn't a total Chad. That's why your celebrity crush should be campus news editor **Joseph Cotton**.



Virgo: Virgos are perfectionists. They need the perfect life, the perfect clothes and of course the perfect guy: **Danny Devito**.



Libra: You need a guy who'll spoil you, someone like **Doug Dimmadome, Owner of the Dimmsdale Dimmadome**.



Scorpio: Everyone knows Scorpio is the spooky sign, so the stars are suggesting someone spooky: **Ozzy Osbourne**. You guys can eat bats and snort ants together.



Sagittarius: Sagittariuses are all about sports. The stars don't really know any athletes so, uhh... what about **Michael Phelps**? Is he still around?



Capricorn: You're a 00s baby but a 90s soul, so you need the perfect 90s guy: **Will Smith**. Just ignore everything he's done after the year 2000.



Aquarius: Aquariuses have chaotic energy no guy can handle. For now just stick with **a dog**.



Pisces: **Father Graham**. Do I even need to explain this one?



TOP 10 HOTTEST U.S. PRESIDENTS



BY MORGAN MILES 2020 is the year for presidents, people! We're not only in the middle of a pandemic, but also facing an approaching election. Americans out there are looking for things to take their minds off of these dilemmas, and I have the solution: admiring our country's finest men.

Ladies and gentlemen and everyone else in between, I ask that you hold tightly onto your poster of shirtless Putin riding a horse for proper observation of the ranking list of a lifetime, and a temporary escape from the mass-chaos we lovingly call "the United States."

10. John Calvin Coolidge

AKA Daddy Cool — so stoic and dreamy. Olive during the roaring twenties, Coolidge 100% gives Jay Gatsby vibes and I strive to be his Daisy Buchanan.



Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

9. Abraham Lincoln

Calling attention to theater nerds and basic Starbucks girls. Lincoln has the spaghetti noodle look that's trendy on TikTok right now. Tall, skinny boys are worth going to the theater for.

8. Millard Fillmore

As part of the Know Nothing party, he's a verified himbo.

7. James A. Garfield

With a glorious beard and an iconic last name, what more could you want?



Photo courtesy of csutbedu

6. Franklin D. Roosevelt

Eleanor was definitely a lesbian, so I'd snatch him from her, polio and all. Not every man can handle a country for more than 8 years: father material right there.

5. William Taft

Of course it's because he's thick. Stuck in a bathtub, stuck in my heart.

4. James Madison

Short Kingz represent. All his height went into drafting the Constitution. F in the chat, please.

3. Martin Van Buren

I'd make him compliment me in Dutch, take that powerful last name through marriage, grab onto those sideburns and never let go.

2. George Washington

Never deny a man with the amount of power George has and exudes.

1. Barack Obama

Barack is definitely a joint package with Michelle — let's not pretend we didn't change our entire school cafeteria diet for her huge, rippling muscles.



Photo courtesy of uslychickens.blogspot.com

Comic Corner

by Evana Dias

